

## Message Text

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11/43

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-02 PA-01

PRS-01 INR-07 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /036 W

----- 033181

O R 041705Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9354

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 1641

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (NUMBERED PARA TO READ FOUR VICE FIVE)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, PFOR, ET, IT

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EVACUATION OF ITALIAN RESIDENTS OF ERITERA

SUMMARY: GOI IS PREPARED TO BEGIN VOLUNTARY EVACUATION OF APPROXIMATELY 1500 ITALIANS FROM ERITERA TO ITALY WHEN ASMARA AIRPORT REOPENS. END SUMMARY.

1. WE UNDERSTAND ITALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAS RECENTLY DISCUSSED WITH DEPARTMENT CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR ECAVUATION OF ITALIANS FROM ERITERA. FOLLOWING IS INTENDED UPDATE OR SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENT.
2. PER COUNSELOR RACHELE OF FONMIN (OFFICE DIRECTOR, SUB-SAHARA), AROUND 1500 ITALIANS, MOSTLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN COMPRISING ROUGHLY HALF ITALIAN COMMUNITY IN ERITERA, ARE ANSIXOUS AND READY TO EVACUATE TO ITALY. REMAINING HALF, MALES, ARE BELIEVED UNABLE OBTAIN GOE EXIT VISAS WITHOUT UNDERGOING LENGTHY PROCESS OF PAYING TAXES, SOCIAL SECURITY ON EX-EMPLOYEES, ETC.

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3. ITALY COULD HANDLE EVACUATION RELATIVELY PROMPTLY VIA

ALITALIA FLIGHTS, REGULAR OR CHARETER, WERE IT NOT FOR FACT  
THAT ASMARA AIRPORT HAS BEEN CLOSED BY GOE OFFICIALS.  
REGULAR ALITALIA FLIGHT FROM ROME FEBRUARY 3 WAS REFUSED  
PERMISSION TO LAND ASMARA AND DIVERTED TO MOGADISCO, EVEN  
THOUGH ITALIAN CONGEN TO ASMARA AND A SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITY

OF RELIEF SUPPLIES WERE ON BOARD. RACHELE SHOWED NO OPTIMISM  
THAT AIRPORT WOULD SOON BE RE-OPENEND, GIVEN FOR EXAMPLE ITS  
"USE BY GOE FOR MILITARY PURPOSES." HOWEVER, CURRENT  
ITALIAN PLAN TO LOAD ALL INBOUND FLIGHTS WITH EMERGENCY  
SUPPLIES FOR "POPULATION OF ASMARA" MIGHT HELP WIN GOE APPROVAL.  
ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR TO ROME HAVING "QUIT", RACHELE IS TRYING  
TO FIND ETHIOPIAN CHARGE TO SEEK HIS INTERVENTION WITH DIRG.

4. ITALIAN WOULD-BE EVACUEES ARE LEAVING NOT ONLY BECAUSE  
OF "CHAOTIC" SECURITY SITUATION BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF GROWING  
SCARCITY OF FOOD, DISRUPTION OF WATER AND ELECTRIC SERVICES,  
AND GENERALLY GLOOMY PROGNOSIS FOR ERITERA IN THE FORESEEABLE  
FUTURE.VOLPE UNQUOTE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EMERGENCY EVACUATION, CITIZEN PROTECTION, CIVIL DISORDERS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, EVACUATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ROME01641  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750041-0925, D750040-0771  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION OPR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE EVACUATION OF ITALIAN RESIDENTS OF ERITERA SUMMARY: GOI IS PREPARED TO BEGIN VOLUNTARY EVACUATION OF  
**TAGS:** AEMR, PFOR, ET, IT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006